

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 05787 041001Z

11

ACTION EUR-12

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERLIN 5787

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, GE, GW, US, UK, FR

SUBJECT: FOUR POWER AGREEMENT ON BERLIN: TASS ARTICLE OF
JUNE 3 CARRIED IN NEUES DEUTSCHLAND

1. PAGE ONE OF NEUES DEUTSCHLAND ON JUNE 3 CARRIES
AN ARTICLE FROM TASS DATELINED MOSCOW ON THE OCCASION
OF THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF
THE FOUR POWER AGREEMENT ON BERLIN. THE HEADLINE
READS: "TASS AGAINST THE DISAVOWAL OF POLITICAL
REALITIES-- GENSCHER ACTS OUTSIDE HIS COMPTENCY".
FOLLOWING ARE PARAPHRASES OF THE ARTICLE'S MAIN
THEMES: A. TASS PRAISES THE FOUR POWER AGREEMENT FOR
ITS POSITIVE ROLE IN THE NORMALIZATION OF THE
LIFE OF WEST BERLIN AND ITS RECOGNIZED CONTRIBUTION
TO THE GENERAL IMPROVEMENT OF THE POLITICAL CLIMATE IN
EUROPE. IT CRITICIZES THOSE WHO HAVE ACTED OVER THE
PAST THREE YEARS AGAINST BOTH THE SPIRIT AND LETTER
OF THE AGREEMENT AND LISTS AMONG THE ACTS CONTRARY TO
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THE AGREEMENT THE RECENT FOUR POWER STATEMENT IN PARIS WHICH DEALS WITH THE FOUR-SIDED STATUS OF BERLIN, INCLUDING THE CAPITAL OF THE GDR. B. WITH REGARD TO BERLIN, THE ARTICLE STATES THAT THE CONCEPT OF FOUR-POWER STATUS HAS NOTHING IN COMMON WITH THE REAL POLITICAL SITUATION. TASS CONTINUES THAT BERLIN HAS BEEN THE CAPITAL OF A SOVEREIGN STATE, THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, FOR A QUARTER OF A CENTURY AND IS AN INTEGRAL AND INALIENABLE PART OF THE GDR. THIS SECTION OF THE ARTICLE CONCLUDES BY SAYING THAT WEST BERLIN AND THE GDR CAPITAL CANNOT BE MEASURED BY THE SAME YARDSTICK SINCE SUCH A POSITION IS UNTENABLE AND THE CONCEPT OF "ALL BERLIN" IS WITHOUT BASIS. C. TASS QUESTIONS THE PARTICIPATION OF FRG FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER IN THE FOUR POWER DECLARATION IN PARIS AND CONCLUDES THAT GENSCHER WAS ACTING OUTSIDE HIS COMPETENCE SINCE BERLIN AS THE CAPITAL OF THE GDR BELONGS NEITHER TO WEST BERLIN NOR TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY. D. THE ARTICLE CONCLUDES BY SAYING THAT THE FOUR POWER AGREEMENT IS A CLEAR AND PRECISE DOCUMENT WHICH MUST BE STRICTLY AND ACCURATELY FULFILLED. ALL ATTEMPTS AT A NEW INTERPRETATION OF THIS AGREEMENT ONLY DAMAGE THE INTERNATIONAL RELAXATION OF TENSIONS AND THE CONSOLIDATION OF PEACE AND STABILITY IN EUROPE.

2. COMMENT: THE TASS ARTICLE APPEARS TO BE A MEASURED AND RESTRAINED RESPONSE TO THE PARIS DECLARATION. IT DIVIDES ITS CRITICISM EQUALLY BETWEEN THE THREE WESTERN ALLIES ON THE ONE HAND AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC ON THE OTHER. CONTRACTS IN THE WEST GERMAN REPRESENTATION IN EAST BERLIN SEE IT PRIMARILY AS AN ATTACK UPON GENSCHER, RATHER THAN AN INDICATION THAT THE SOVIET UNION INTENDS TO PURSUE A TROUBLESOME COURSE OVER BERLIN IN THE NEAR FUTURE. GROVE

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